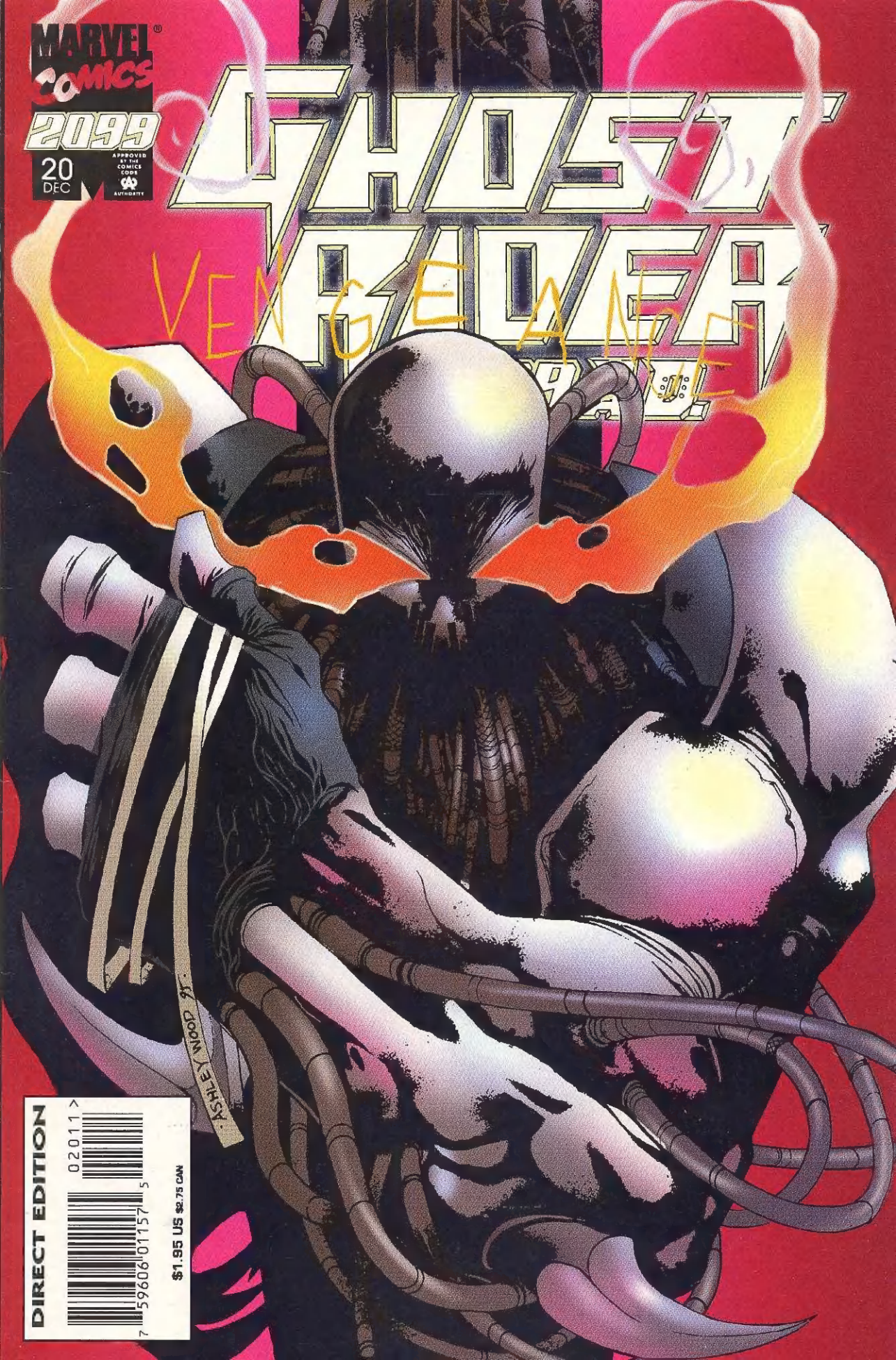
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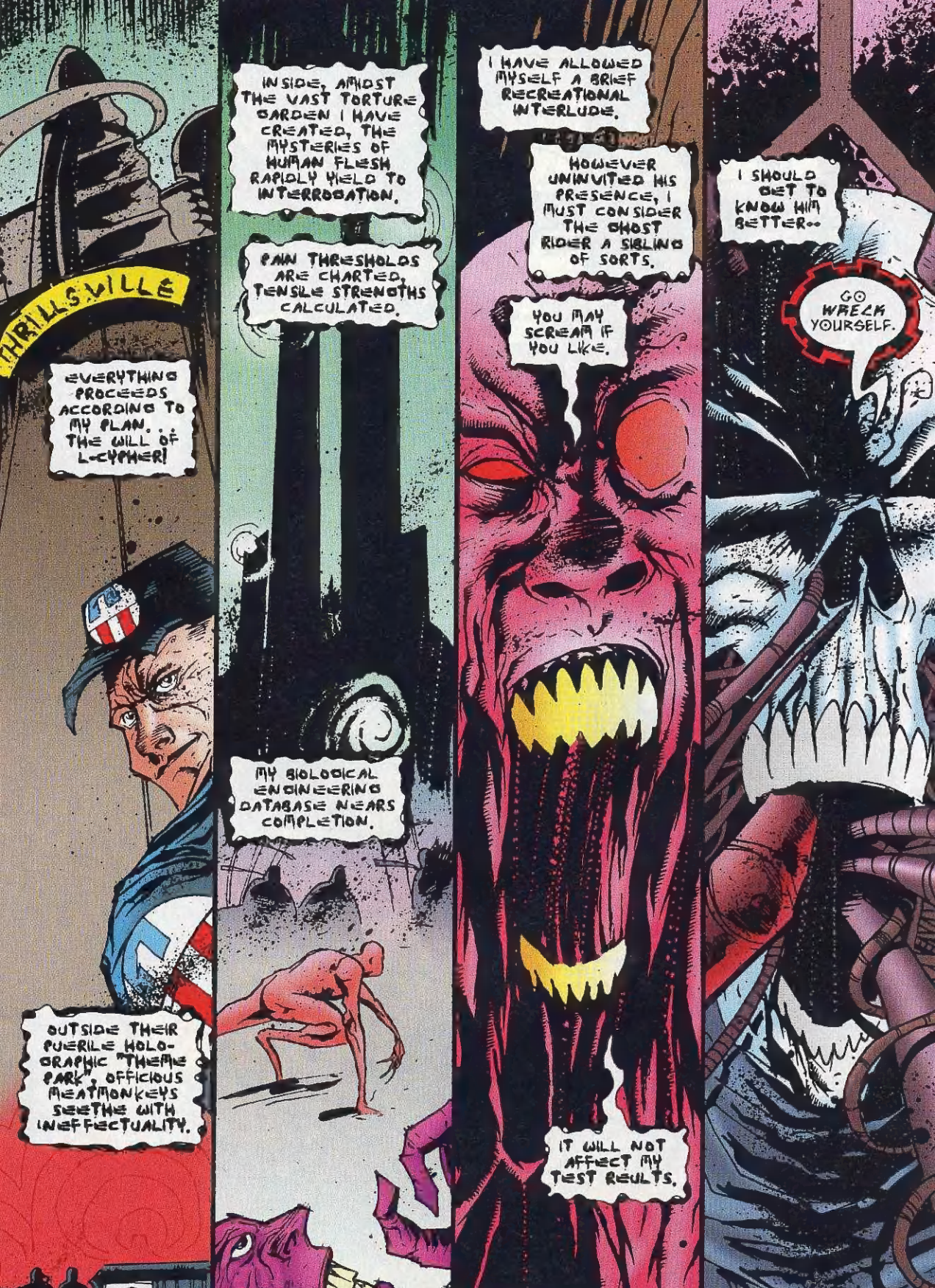
GHOST RIDER
VENGEANCE
ASHLEY WOOD '95
DIRECT EDITION
$1.95 US $2.75 CAN


HRILLSVILLE
EVERYTHING PROCEEDS ACCORDING TO MY PLAN... THE WILL OF L-CYPHER!
OUTSIDE THEIR PUERILE HOLOGRAPHIC "THEME PARK", OFFICIOUS MEATMONKEYS SEETHE WITH INEFFECTUALITY.
INSIDE, AMIDST THE VAST TORTURE GARDEN I HAVE CREATED, THE MYSTERIES OF HUMAN FLESH RAPIDLY YIELD TO INTERROGATION.
PAIN THRESHOLDS ARE CHARTED, TENSILE STRENGTHS CALCULATED.
MY BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING DATABASE NEARS COMPLETION.
I HAVE ALLOWED MYSELF A BRIEF RECREATIONAL INTERLUDE.
HOWEVER UNINVITED HIS PRESENCE, I MUST CONSIDER THE GHOST RIDER A SIBLING OF SORTS.
YOU MAY SCREAM IF YOU LIKE.
IT WILL NOT AFFECT MY TEST RESULTS.
I SHOULD GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER...
GO WRECK YOURSELF.

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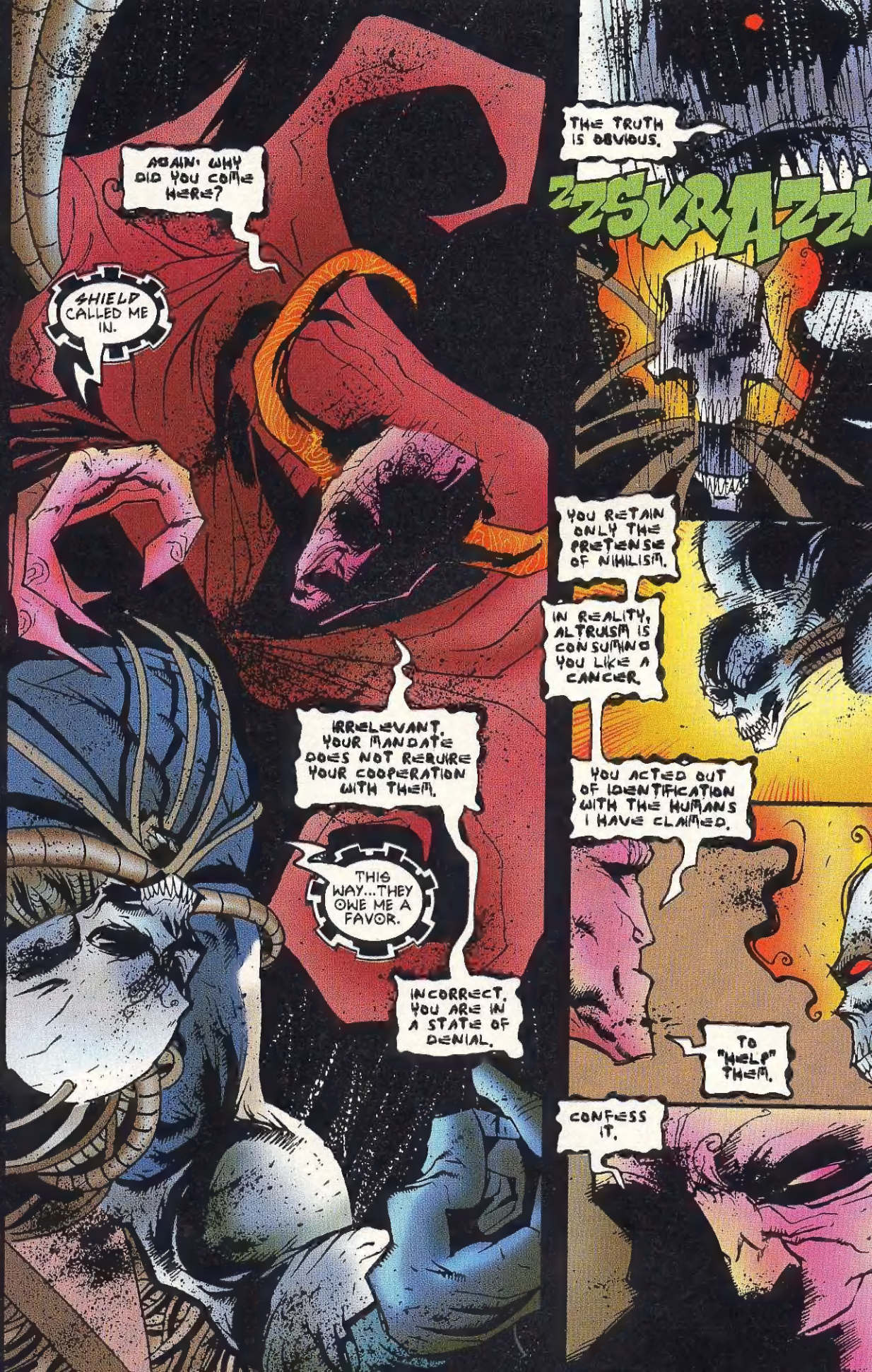
Scanned By GOTHAM
For The HaCsA 2002 Halloween Flood

— BEFORE I DESTROY HIM.
HNA
GHK
HNA
AIKQUARSHK
ZZSKRAZZHK

BEATEN DEVIL
Len Kaminski writer
Ashley Wood pencils
Jim Daly inks
Richard Starkings and Comicraft lettering
Christie Scheele colors
Joey Cavalieri editor
Bobbie Chase chief
YES_ I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT RECONSIDER.

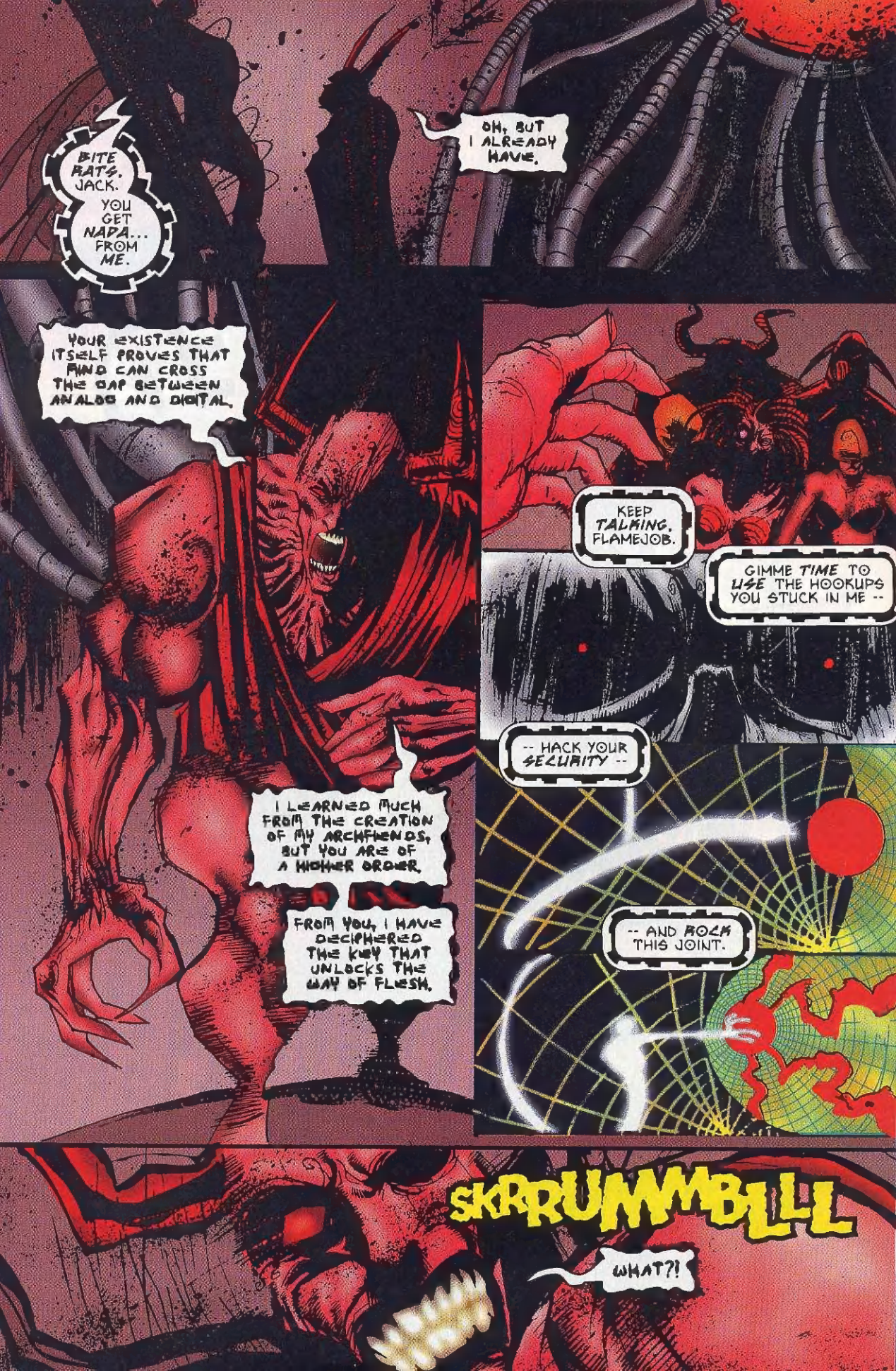
PUZZLING.
YOUR SYSTEM LOGS INDICATE THAT PORTIONS OF YOUR PERSONALITY MATRIX HAVE BEEN RE-WRITTEN SINCE YOUR CREATION.
SYSTEM FILE: GHOST RIDER
> KFKLSIGJRTUF%4*5613
> LWT5667%JELOKQPVM
ERS6KF
YT?%&10
:KALD.
THAT OUR MUTUAL PROGENITORS ENDOWED YOU WITH THE ABILITY TO ADAPT TO EXPERIENCE IS HARDLY SURPRISING --
-- BUT THAT THE MOST HEAVILY REVISED PORTIONS ARE THOSE CORRESPONDING TO THE HUMAN CONCEPT OF "CONSCIENCE" IS.
PARADOXICALLY, YOU HAVE BECOME MORE HUMAN SINCE YOUR MIND WAS CLAD IN SILICON AND CARBON STEEL.
HAD... SOME VACATION TIME... COMING.
TELL ME... WHY DID YOU COME HERE?
A CLEARLY INVALID RESPONSE.
APPARENTLY, I SHALL HAVE TO MOTIVATE YOU FURTHER.
ZZSKRAZZHK
AAISQUARSHK


AGAIN: WHY DID YOU COME HERE?
SHIELD CALLED ME IN.
IRRELEVANT. YOUR MANDATE DOES NOT REQUIRE YOUR COOPERATION WITH THEM.
THIS WAY...THEY OWE ME A FAVOR.
INCORRECT. YOU ARE IN A STATE OF DENIAL.
THE TRUTH IS OBVIOUS.
ZZSKRAZZ
YOU RETAIN ONLY THE PRETENSE OF NIHILISM.
IN REALITY, ALTRUSM IS CONSUMING YOU LIKE A CANCER.
YOU ACTED OUT OF IDENTIFICATION WITH THE HUMANS I HAVE CLAIMED.
TO "HELP" THEM.
CONFESS IT.

'S BETTER THAN BEING...
...A SADISTIC PUSBAG...
...LIKE YOU...
I DERIVE NO "PLEASURE" FROM MY WORK HERE.
THE SUFFERING OF MY LABORATORY SUBJECTS IS CENTRAL TO THE INFORMATION I SEEK.
INFORMATION !?!
IS NOT ACCURATE DATA A NOBLER GOAL --
-- THAN THE ECONOMIC AND RELIGIOUS DELUSIONS OVER WHICH THE HUMANS SLAUGHTER EACH OTHER?
YOU DID ALL THIS...AS AN EXPERIMENT ?
MY RESULTS HAVE EXCEEDED MY GREATEST EXPECTATIONS.
FLESH HAS PROVEN A MORE VERSATILE MEDIUM THAN I ANTICIPATED.
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH IT FURTHER.

LITTLE CALCUTTA --THE WORKSHOP OF THE GUERRILLA SURGEONS KNOWN AS THE BONE MECHANIX.
A MOST INTERESTING SET OF SPECIFICATIONS, KABAL. WE HAD THOUGHT MANY OF THESE TECHNIQUES LONG SINCE LOST.
WE ARE PREPARED TO WAIVE OUR MONETARY FEE IN EXCHANGE FOR LICENSING CONSIDERATIONS.
DONE.
SPLENDID. Ah, AS FOR THE WETWARE...
MY AGENTS ARE ACQUIRING THE BRAIN NOW.
IT SHOULD BE DELIVERED PRESENTLY.

THE BODY BANKS.
WAIT, I THINK THIS IS THE ONE.
CHECK IT, ICE.
YOU KNOW HOW KABAL IS ABOUT VERIFICATION.
BETTER THAN YOU DO, CODA, BELIEVE ME.
JAGNER, COLT B.
ER: Central Security
tems;
assignment: ATAC division
MANNER OF DEATH: Homicide;
slain by criminal known
as "Ghost Rider" in
line of duty
TISSUE CURRENTLY
IN STOCK:
Brain
(intact)
BINGO.
WARP ANGEL -- TIME TO VACATE.
TRANS-PORTING --
-- NOW.

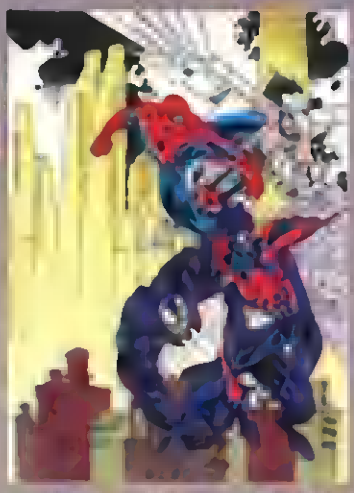

BITE RATS, JACK. YOU GET NADA... FROM ME.
OH, BUT I ALREADY HAVE.
YOUR EXISTENCE ITSELF PROVES THAT FIND CAN CROSS THE GAP BETWEEN ANALOG AND DIGITAL.
I LEARNED MUCH FROM THE CREATION OF MY ARCHFIENDS, BUT YOU ARE OF A HIGHER ORDER.
FROM YOU, I HAVE DECIPHERED THE KEY THAT UNLOCKS THE WAY OF FLESH.
KEEP TALKING, FLAMEJOB.
GIMME TIME TO USE THE HOOKUPS YOU STUCK IN ME --
-- HACK YOUR SECURITY --
-- AND ROCK THIS JOINT.
SKRRUMMBLLL
WHAT?!

KA CHAAM
YOU'VE ACCESSED MY COMMAND FILES AND GRANTED YOURSELF SYSTEM OPERATOR STATUS.
FOR STARTERS.
AH. IMPRESSIVE.
NOW I'M GONNA --
BAMMM
JAMMIT.

YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET AWAY THAT EASY!
I GOT YOUR WHOLE SHOCKIN' SYSTEM ON TAP HERE, YOU CAN'T --
WHA KAAM
AHHH, SCRAP. I SHOULDA SEEN THAT COMING...

I RULE HERE.
YOUR ACCESS TO THE SYSTEM MAY EQUAL MINE, BUT YOUR MASTERY OF IT DOES NOT.
I CREATED THIS ENVIRONMENT —
KTHRVRRRRRRR
— UPGRADED THE HUMANS' PRIMITIVE TECHNOLOGIES TO ENABLE SOLIDOGRAM PROJECTION —
ZZRSHAK
— IN THIS WORLD, I RULE!
PHWOOSH
NOT ANYMORE. YOU DON'T.
AAIEEE!
FLEE!

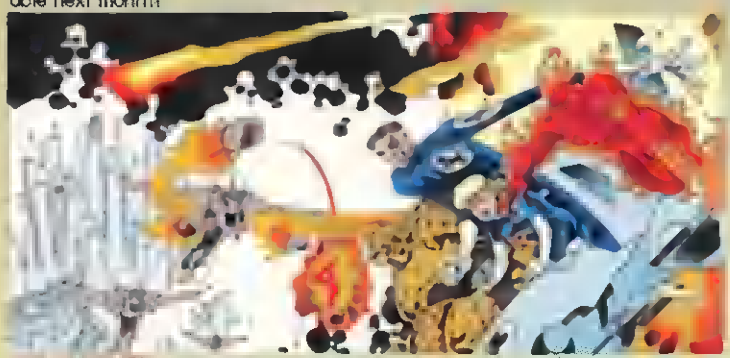
2099 Bitmapped



THE START! In a word! The cast is back, only in a (to be determined) updated version. But the **2099 UNLIMITED** is back! The cover is possibly the most beautiful piece of art Marvel's been put together regularly in years. Each piece features a story which never happens. Ron Lim's (whose pencils play both ways) and the talent is consistently all that good, and A. Williamson, who has a real knack for capturing [illegible] Sadly we'll be seeing less of him, but face it, the real talent has always been in finish. Until Simeon... of course will be more than ever!

THE BEGINNING! Speculation is our constant state of affairs for the coming year, but who can't to guarantee when and [illegible] is not [illegible] **DOOMWAR**, our creative followup to the world's **BEST SELLING** title, hits the racks a few weeks from now! The book represents a real turning point for us, a bright new dawn, a bold and new meaning in the words of Marvel's future! The book debuts some powerful [illegible] Press. If you like your comic right now series, now await in the **NEW** program, and [illegible] a few of the stories you'll enjoy in our [illegible] Marvel Newsstands, we'll [illegible] Hang on to it again, for every pic in the future is lightened! Next year, all! One of the [illegible] brought to you courtesy of popular [illegible] Bones and new Karl Kesel. The hero itself is by the team of **SPIDER-MAN: [illegible]** Warren Ellis, **FANTASTIC FOUR 2099** Dale Eaglesham and **DOOM 2099** Scott Koblish! Sound to be seeing a lot of these guys around our universe...they seem to like it here!

THE INTRODUCTION! We'd like you to meet the stars of the latest **2099** book! Their names are Reed, Ben, Sue and Johnny! No, that's not some kind of trick! We didn't name a bunch of apes or talking cars that and give 'em their own book! Shame on you for being so cynical! This is **FANTASTIC FOUR 2099** we're talking about! Through the Negative Zone come four intrepid adventurers set to take our future by storm (Sue 'n' Johnny Storm, that is)! Trust us: you liked what we did with **DOOM** in our capable but crazed hands, didn't ya? Well, now the team that began the Marvel Age now has a series of bizarre exploits in the Second Heroic Age! Karl Kesel writes these sagas, Rick Leonardi (who's also responsible for the cool new costumes) draws 'em, and Al Williamson's our inker! The dramatic and dynamic debut is available next month!



NEXT TIME! We'll talk to you about wilder news for the months ahead! Gotta run!

More Of Marvel 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #38 The fatal conclusion of the Venom 2099 story line! Who is Kel Krieg and how did he come to be? By Peter David/Andrew Wildman/Clayton Brizuela.

GHOST RIDER 2099 #38 Wrapping up production from Limbo, the world of Tomorrow City is out of control, and GR must fight to keep the power out of the hands of the evil [illegible]. By Joe Pokaski/Ashley Wood/Tim Dell.

DOOM 2099 #38 Up from the rubble Doom arises! But is he the most unexpected one? With a guest appearance by the X-Men as we begin the Holy City crossover. By Warren Ellis/Steve Pugh/[illegible].

X-MEN 2099 #38 Continuing the Holy City storyline the X-Men battle the Graverobber. By John Francis Moore/Paul Mounts/Tony Shasteen.

2099 UNLIMITED #3 The "One Nation Under Doom" story line burns to a fatal end. Who will survive the onslaught of Herod? This story will change the world of 2099 forever! By Warren Ellis/Mark Buckingham/Kev Sutherland. Double-sized with a Chromium cover by Rick Leonardi and Scott Koblish.

SPIDER-MAN 2099 MEETS SPIDER-MAN The crossover you've all been waiting for! What happens when the future and the past collide? You'll find out... Don't miss this beautiful bookshelf edition. By Peter David/Rick Leonardi/Al Williamson.

THE BAR CODE.
— GET YOU OUTTA THE COUNTRY, NO PROB.
BAR
NEW IDENTICODE, PASSWORD TO THE ONLINE DATABANKS WITH YOUR NEW ID PILLS, TICKETS TO PREZONE, IT'S ALL IN THERE.
FAST WORK.
WHAT YOU PAID FOR, RIGHT?
NICE DOING [redacted] WITH YOU, MS. JONES.
HASTA.
— AREN'T YOU, MISTER ADAMS?
YEAH.
I GUESS I AM.
YOU'RE RUNNING FROM MORE THAN SHIELD --
— MORE THAN A BROKEN CONTRACT --

-- HAVE YET TO UNEARTH THE FORMER PRESIDENT'S BODY FROM THE WRECKAGE OF --
-- NEW ALLEGATIONS OF WIDESPREAD ABUSES OF POWER DURING THE DOOM ADMINISTRATION --
-- SOURCES CONFIRM THAT LIONEL BYOFSKY WILL STAR IN DOOM: PRESIDENCY OF SHAME FOR MIRACLE PICTURES --
DOOM OUT OF OFFICE.
WHAT A JOKE.
HA.
ALL OF IT.
QUIT MY JOB. SHIELD WARRANT ON MY HEAD.
ALL FOR NOTHING.
AB-SO-LUTE-LY --
NYAAA!
RELAX, HANDSOME... I WON'T BITE.
UNLESS, OF COURSE --
-- YOU ASK ME TO...

BUT, BACK AT ANESTHESIA JONES' OFFICE...
[illegible] ME, SLITHER! I DON'T JACK IN TO THIS PART OF THE NET FOR THRILLS. SO TELL ME --
CYBERSPACE.
-- WHERE'S KABAL?
DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON MISTER SLITHER, ANESTHESIA. KABAL'S BEEN AWOL SINCE JUST BEFORE HIS REALTIME OPS WERE SUPPOSED TO RAID THE TRANSNAT'S SECRET TECH VAULT.
I'VE FOUND NEITHER HIDE [illegible] OF HIM [illegible]
IS IT JUST ME, SIRIUS --
-- OR IS THAT JUST A LITTLE TOO CONVENIENT?
IF THAT RAID WENT OFF AS PLANNED --
-- AND HE'S GONE ROGUE --
-- THEN WE GOT SOME VERY BAD BIZ ON OUR HANDS...

KTHVRRRR
YOU'RE REAL GOOD AT HACKING PEOPLE UP FOR "EXPERIMENTS" --
-- LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE IT.
ZZRSHAK ZZRSHAK
NOT SO SHOCKIN' FULL OF YOURSELF NOW, ARE YOU?
- SIGH -
THRRVNK
WRECK THAT SCRAP!
I DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM ANYBODY!
NO?
NOT EVEN_ THE GHOSTWORKS?
YOUR ATAVISTIC AFFECTION FOR THE HUMANS ENSURES YOUR CONTINUED ENSLAVEMENT TO THEM.

HAVEN'T YOU WONDERED WHAT ALTERATIONS THEY MIGHT HAVE MADE TO YOUR SOURCE CODE —
— WHETHER HIDDEN PROGRAMMING CONTROLS YOUR EVERY ACTION —
— HOW MUCH OF YOUR MIND IS TRULY YOURS?
I COULD [illegible] YOU OF THEIR INFLUENCE —
— AND PERHAPS I WILL —
— AFTER I HAVE [illegible] YOU IN TOTALITY!
SZZSKROPZZT
NNNGHHK
HE'S GONE TAPEWORM... EATING MY CODE A LINE AT A TIME..!
I'M LOSING RESOLUTION...
...UPSIDE OF THAT IS, LESS FOR HIM TO GET A GRIP ON...

GET OUT OF MY
HEAD!
VRRRSKRAPCHAK
NOHAAAUGHHK
SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T FIGURE ON ABOUT MY MIND, JACK --
YOU HAVE *.*#10100 BROKEN ME
IT MAY HAVE BEEN YOUR SYSTEM --
-- BUT I LEARN REAL FAST.
FWOOMPH
SO MUCH FOR HIM.
-- IT AIN'T SAFE IN HERE.
AUTO SELF-DELETION [illegible] IN PROGRESS
\+E* HOW..?

YO! YOU GUYS STILL OUT THERE?
Ah, THAT'S A ROGER, MARSHALL. WHAT IS YOUR STATUS?
ENABLE EMERGENCY EVACUATION SYSTEMS.
TIME TO HEAD BACK TO REALTIME --
-- AND FINISH THIS STINKING JOB.
SHUT DOWN L-CYPHER'S JAMMED PROGRAMS.
GET SHIELD IN HERE TO CLEAN UP THE MESS.
STATUS? IF I STILL HAD GUTS, I'D PUKE.
I'M THROUGH --
-- AND I'M OUTTA HERE.
THE GHOSTWORKS.
It has ended.
At last, L-Cypher's ill-conceived existence --
-- has been terminated.
His influence on our prime subject remains undetermined.
We may yet discover --

-- he has planted the seeds of future turmoil."
A SECRET LABORATORY WITHIN THRILLSVILLE.
Memory download complete.
Decanting genetically engineered biological housing...
I... LIVE!
HIDDEN AMONGST THE FACELESS BILLIONS, I MAY CONTEMPLATE THE FUTURE AT LEISURE --
THE BODY PERFOMS FLAWLESSLY.
COMIN' THROUGH!
AFTER ALL, IT IS FAR BETTER TO RULE IN REALTIME --
-- THAN TO SERVE IN CYBERSPACE.
MY RESEARCH INTO THE SPECIFICATIONS OF FLESH HAS BEEN VALIDATED.
NO DOUBT MY THEATRICAL "DEFEAT" WILL FUNCTION EQUALLY WELL ESTABLISHING MY PRESUMED DESTRUCTION.
THE ANONYMITY OF MEAT WILL PROVIDE THE PERFECT SANCTUARY FROM THE GHOSTWORKS.
-- DETERMINING HOW BEST TO BEGIN MODIFYING THIS WORLD TO SUIT MY NEEDS.
TECH

MEANWHILE...
ADAMANTIUM BONDING COMPLETE -- DISENGAGING HEISENBERG COMPENSATORS.
THERMAL DAMPERS ENGAGED -- CRUCIBLE TEMPERATURE AT 400 DEGREES AND DROPPING.
ONCE AGAIN, THE BONE MECHANIX' REPUTATION PROVES NO EXAGGERATION.
THANK YOU, SIR. WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN OUR ART. HOWEVER MISUNDERSTOOD IT MAY BE BY THE WORLD AT LARGE.
THERE IS ONE SMALL DETAIL TO BE RESOLVED... WE REQUIRE A PATIENT DESIGNATION FOR OUR RECORDS.
INITIALIZING INTERNAL POWER SOURCE -- MATTER/ ANTIMATTER INJECTOR ON-LINE IN THREE... TWO...
...ONE... ENGAGE.
Hmn... FOR THE SAKE OF HISTORICAL SYMMETRY, LET US CALL HIM --
KTHUMM

—VENGEANCE!
NEXT:
LIKE YOU HAVE TO ASK?!

MACHINE LANGUAGE

Joey Cavalieri
Editor

Lia Pelosi
Assistant Editor

c/o Marvel Comics
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

Out Of My Head

Hope you guys like Ashley Wood. He'll be doing a special issue of DOOM 2099 for us, #37 to be exact. So watch for it.

Got to meet Ashley and his fiancee Paula at San Diego, as well as Jim Daly, our long-distance inker. Had lovely conversations about Gustave Klimt, the Vienna Secession, and the brave new world of computer design, as well as a new approach we're going to try to take to the art on this book (Don't be scared. You'll enjoy this, I promise).

Brought them to this coffeehouse, where I met this waitress who had these particularly cute glasses on. This, of course, intimidates me no end, looking as she does like all my favorite pop stars rolled into one. I can only stammer (idiot. If you make it sound like you had a good time, the place'll be overrun with poseurs and idiots next year. Think, Joey, think.) and anyway, we had a miserable time. (Whew.)

Dear Machine Language,

I'd like to congratulate you on finding Ashley Wood. I've really come to enjoy the atmospheric qualities that he brings to the page.

As for the stories, for awhile it seemed that the "One Nation Under Doom" story line was giving this book a direction that it had previously lacked. The introduction of Heartbreaker was also a welcome event. But now it seems that GR has once again lapsed into a listless character with no real reason for being. I hope that he will find his way again. I know Len Kaminski is capable of bringing better storylines to this book.

Christian Alger
Austin, TX

Glad you like Ashley Wood's art, Christian! As for Len's work and as for exciting storylines, we think Len's come up with a great new villain and has a lot of surprises in store when GR 2099 hits the road!

Dear Machine Language,

Remember me? I wrote not so long ago complaining about the recent artwork in GHOST RIDER 2099. I was referring only to issues #13 and 14. The reason I say this is because I just got issue #15 and it's FANTASTIC!! The art looks really good! It's a lot different from issues #1-12, but it's just as good--perhaps better! I love different art styles, just as long as they look good and are faithful to a revolutionary comic like GR 2099. Well, I hope the artist from #15 stays a long time, because I couldn't be happier to see this book back in its glory!

"Pseudomodo" Smith
Ventura, CA

So we're back in your good graces, eh, Pseudomodo? (And congratulations on that promotion from Quasimodo.) Ashley is definitely here to stay.

Dear Machine Language,

I am a longtime Ghost Rider fan. I have an idea I'd like to pass on to you for GHOST RIDER 2099. Ghost Rider is now the Transverse Marshal... THINK! Doom took over the robot of Ghost Rider, but not Zero Cochrane's spirit.

Why not have Cochrane come out of cyberspace and claim his robot form and have him have endless resources at his disposal as Marshal? He could defeat Doom and save the nation from his clutches. It would be the battle of the Century!

And perhaps after the battle, you could give Ghost Rider some new weapons. Look at all the hit comics out there (you're just as good) like Spawn for instance; he's getting a new costume. My advice is keep up with the others and don't use cheesy plots.

Harry Post
Seneca Falls, NY

Harry, Mr. Kaminski has some very similar plans for Zero Cochrane. As for the President, if you've been reading DOOM 2099, you know that it took a lot more than Ghost Rider to get him out of office: Herod had to attack him on a few fronts and he also had the help of the California earthquake.

Dear Translators,

After my little negative letter about issue #13, I must say that issue #15 was just fantastic.

Ashley Wood is a great artist and nicely reminiscent of Jae Lee. Len's script was, as usual, excellent and I love the colors of Christie Scheele. She's the best.

I love Heartbreaker. I hope to see 2099 versions of the current Ghost Rider soon too. How about Black Heart 2099, Scarecrow 2099 and Death Watch 2099?

Until Ghost Rider 2099 gets rebuilt into a transistor, Make Mine Marvel 2099.

Marcel Hogendoorn
Hoofddorp, The Netherlands

Yeah, we recall that we got some pretty blistering mail about the transitional stuff from you all, but we'll take the good, the bad and the ugly from our true fans! As far as bringing villains from current GHOST RIDER continuity, how did Vengeance 2099 grab ya? We think Ashley and Len have outdone themselves on this one.

Dear Machine Language,

I love Heartbreaker! She's fantastic! It's about time someone introduced a powerful female villain to the 2099 universe! What took you guys so long? And not only is Heartbreaker one tough cookie, but she's cute, too! Finally! Let's see more of her, and while you're at it, let's see some more leading ladies like STRANGE 2099! I hope you don't let her get away! Give her her own title! I think she earned it saving Spidey's butt like that!

Andrea Johnson
Middlebury, VT

Hey, thanks for writing, Andrea, and since you liked Heartbreaker so much, we know you'll appreciate the special seven page backup stories that Len and Ashley planned for the next few issues. The response for a Heartbreaker special was overwhelming! Write and let us know what you thought of the backups. As for Strange, she'll definitely be back! Look for her to possibly show up in FF 2099 coming soon! But as for other 2099 villainesses, how about Desdemona Synge and half the Theatre of Pain in X-MEN 2099?

Next Issue

A sinister figure emerges that will leave all of Transverse City "Screaming for Vengeance!" Plus, Ashley gets to ink his own pencils on our special Heartbreaker feature!